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Mr. Allen

Allen-Scott Report

Next Two Weeks Are Critical

By ROBERT S. ALLEN and PAUL SCOTT

The coming ten days to two weeks could be the most critical in American history.

Unless there is a last minute switch in the Communists' timetable, this is the target period which the Kremlin has set for massive new violence and disruption in American cities.

Only the presence of federal troops and national guardsmen may head off the brewing trouble.

Most likely objective of the firebombs this time could be the vast U.S. postal system and the millions in federal income tax returns, checks, and money orders that flood the mails during this period.

In the final rush to beat the deadline, American taxpayers clogged the mails with more than $30 billion that the Internal Revenue Service picked up and recorded from April 15-20.

Although the famous motto inscribed on the U. S. Post Office here boasts that "Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds," it is anybody's guess whether the mails would go through if the nation's main post offices were assaulted and firebombed, as many business areas were following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.

While numerous delays in delivering the mail occurred in the big cities during the riots, the mail eventually got through. As if "soul brother" were written on the buildings, none of the post offices was hit during the "first round" of the organized firebombings that shocked more than 115 of the nation's cities.

Arrest records forwarded to the Justice Department show that more than 100 of the thousands arrested during the riots throughout the country were Post Office employes.

Since more than 50 per cent of the nations mail is handled in only 33 post offices in the large cities, the destruction of the U.S. postal system and the millions of income tax returns could bring on a temporary financial catastrophe and service problem for the federal government.

As reported in an earlier column, the Communist-infiltrated Students For a Democratic Society, in a series of meetings throughout the U. S., have laid plans for 10 days of violence and disruption in major American cities from April 21 to 30.

The ambitious plans of those campus bolsheviks might seem a little fanciful except for present events. Also, "Firebomb" — their organ — calls for the beginning of a coordinated national program to "destroy and re-create" this country.

These critical days could also see the start of the Washington invasion by the followers of the late Dr. King. April 22 was the original date, since postponed "a week or two."

Before his assassination, King himself had threatened "massive dislocation of Washington and organized demonstrations to "disrupt the functioning" of other major cities' including Chicago, New York, and Miami.

"We are going to the seat of government," King said, "not begging but demanding. We are willing if necessary to fill up the jails of Washington and surrounding communities."

The Rev. Ralph Abernathy, successor to King, has announced that he plans to carry on the Washington invasion as originally planned by King and other members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

As this crisis period begins, there is growing evidence the Kremlin is flooding this country with millions of dollars so local units can buy the services of of black militants, teenagers, and others.

Testifying behind closed doors before the House Appropriations' subcommittee which handles funds for the FBI, Director J. Edgar Hoover told the startled legislators that in recent years the Kremlin had pumped more than $5 million into the U. S.

Another high-placed government security official stated that Hoover's estimate "is a very conservative one." "The Kremlin has sent that much money into the U. S. in the past 12 months to ignite the present revolution," he charged.

Significantly, Chicago police reported to the FBI last week that arrested rioters in that city had amazingly well-lined pockets. A total of $55,000 was found on 2,000 prisoners, according to the Chicago police report. On an average, adults carried between $100 and $300 and juveniles somewhat more than $100. Much of the money was in brand new U.S. $20 bills.

Government security officials report that Communist funds, agents, and instructions for making "dozens of types of firebombs" have in recent months come into the U. S. via Canada.

To complicate the present crisis still further, telephone workers are poised to strike April 19 in many parts of the county unless Bell System companies meet their wage demands. This strike, originally set for April 12, was postponed because of King's assassination.

Post Office Probe — Rep. Robert N. C. Nix, D-Pa., believes that Congress may be paving the way for government-wide strikes, if it decides to turn the Post Office Department into a government-owned corporation.

His postal operations subcommittee expects to hold hearings on proposals to turn the 740,000-man operation into something like the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Outgoing Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien suggested the idea, but wasn't able to muster any strong support in Congress. A presidential panel has studied the proposal for nearly a year and will tell President Johnson what it thinks very soon.

Nix recently warned members of his subcommittee to be very careful in considering the corporation proposal. The government forbids strikes by employees. And most government employee unions have renounced the right to strike. But, Nix says, things could change under a corporation.

18174

Search Widens In King Slaying

The FBI pressed one of the most massive manhunts in its history today for the shadowy figure known as Eric Starvo Galt, charged in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The FBI and police across the country received numerous tips, inquiries and rumors.

But little more was know publicly about the alleged assassin than when his name — probably an alias — first arose a week ago.

Dr. King was killed by a single bullet the night of April 4 as he leaned over the second-floor railing of a Memphis motel. Police have said the shot was fired from the common bathroom of a low-cost hotel across the street.

The FBI said Galt had used the names of Harvey Lowmyer and John Willard.

A man registered as "John Willard" checked into the flophouse just three hours before King was killed.

And Ivan B. Webb, night desk clerk at the Rebel Motel in Memphis told the Associated Press yesterday that a man registered there under the name of Eric S. Galt on April 3, the day beofre the killing.

Webb said a white Mustang bearing Alabama license plates and Mexican tourist stickers was parked near the room occupied by Galt. A similar car has been impounded in Atlanta, Ga., and the FBI said that car belonged to Galt. A white Mustang iss believed to have been the getaway car after the slaying.

The FBI declined comment on the possibility that a man who had checked into another motel April 3 might have been Galt's supposed brother.

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Galt Eludes F.B.I. Agents in California; Thousands of

By MARTIN WALDRON
Special to The New York Times

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 18—Eric Stavro Galt, the suspected assassin oft he Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., apparently eluded the Federal Bureau of Investigation in California last night, a source said today.

The source said that agents believed that they were close to the 36-year-old Galt after Attorney General Ramsay Clark announced that a warrant had been isued for Galt's arrest.

When the arrest did not materialize last night, thousands of wanted posters asking for the public's help in locating Galt were distributed around the nation.

Galt was charged in Birmingham yesterday by the F.B.I. with a conspiracy to violate Dr. King's civil rights, and was charged in Memphis by the state of Tennessee with murdering the 39-year-old civil rights leader with a single rifle shot on April 4.

An unidentified brother of Galt's was said in the F.B.I. complaint to be a co-conspirator. No warrant has been issued for the arrest of the brother, and the bureau has refused to discuss him.

A source in the bureau indicated that the brother might have supplied information. Speculation that the bureau had the brother in custody brought a denial from headquarters in Washington.

"The F.B.I. has no one in custody in connection with Dr. King's slaying," the bureau said.

Galt is known to have twice mentioned a brother in the last two months. The first mention came when he is reported to have told a clerk in a Birmingham gun store that he and his brother planned to go hunting.

Agent Joseph H. Gable, in charge of the Birmingham bureau, said in the complaint that the rifle found discarded on a Memphis street near the scene of Dr. King's slaying had been bought by Galt on March 30, 1968.

The clerk at the gun store refused today to answer questions about the rifle sale.

The Remington Arms Company of Bridgeport, Conn., and the Memphis police have said that it was a .30-'06 caliber Remington rifle with a telescopic sight.

A second mention by Galt of a brother was reported when he was about to be graduated from a bartenders' school in Hollywood in March. He turned down a job because, he is reported to have said, because he had to go see his brother.

There was an indication that the F.B.I. still had not learned whether Eric Starvo Galt was a fictitious name, although the agency was reported yesterday to have decided that it was.

Agents were searching through the files of Birmingham bail bondsmen, looking for old bail bonds under the name Galt.

In his nationwide bulletin for the pick-up of Galt, the bureau did not mention where Galt had been born, where he had lived, whether he was married and what his occupation was.

The only schooling mentioned was dancing lessons and a course in bartending. This information was developed in California this week.

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The wanted poster mentioned two aliases, Harvey Lowmyer and John Willard.

Until yesterday, agents were still trying to find out at rooming houses in Birmingham of Galt had checked into one of them in the last few weeks. The proprietors of 10 of 21 rooming houses checked in Birmingham said that agents had questioned them this week.

There was no mention of a possible motive in the F.B.I. complaint.

The details of the murder charge filed in Memphis have ben kept secret by the state. A police spokesman said there that the details of the charge would not be released until Galt was in custody..

The bureau's photographs of Galt have drawn conflicting reactions from persons in Birmingham, Memphis and Atlanta who have told the F.B.I. that they had seen Galt recently.

Most of the witnesses have said that the photographs did not appear to be that of the man they had seen.

Mr. Gamble, the Birmingham agent, said last night that a photograph of Galt was taken in Birmingham last month. Today, it was reported that the photograph came from Galt's application at the bartenders' school.

Menawhile, the drivers' license division of the Alabama Highway Patrol said again that it mailed a duplicate of Galt's driver's license to him at a Birmingham address on March 1, 1968, a date that the F.B.I. said Galt was in California.

Duplicate License Sought

The Highway Patrol spokesman said that a telephone caller, identifying himself as Eric Galt, had asked for a duplicate of the original license that was issued to him last September.

The envelope with the duplicate license contained a bill for 25 cents to cover the cost, and the 25 cents was paid promptly. The Highway Patrol said it received the money on March 6.

New York Times
19 April 68

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Wanted Posters Distributed in Nation

The complaint filed by Mr. Gamble read:

"On or about March 29, 1968, at Birmingham, Ala., in the northern district of Alabama, Eric Starvo Galt and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother, entered into a conspiracy which continued until on or about April 5, 1968, to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate Martin Luther King Jr., a citizen of the United States, residing in Atlanta, Ga., in the free exercise and enjoyment of his rights secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States, namely the rights to freely travel from state to state.

"In furtherance of this conspiracy, Eric Starvo Galt did on or about March 30, 1968, purchase a rifle at Birmingham, Ala., all in violation of Section 241, Title 18, United States Code.

"And the complainant states that this complaint is based on the purchase of the weapon used to carry out the conspiracy in Birmingham, Ala., on or about March 29, 1968; identification of the gun used by defendant found at the scene of the crime, and investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation."

The complaint was sworn to before United States Commissioner Mildred F. Sprague. Last night, Mrs. Sprague denied that such a complaint had been filed before her. Today she declined to explain why she had denied it.

Galt Recalled on Coast

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, April 18—Acquaintances of Eric Starvo Galt recalled him today as pleasant and intelligent but shy and somewhat mysterious.

The suspect apparently spent most of last December, January and February in the Los Angeles-Long Beach area.

He took lessons at the National Dance Studios in Long Beach from mid-December to Feb. 12, the manager, Rod Arvidson said, paying $465 in cash for a 50-hour course of instruction.

Galt left before completing the course, the manager said, with the explanation that he was concentrating on a bartending course so he could open a bar in Los Angeles.

Early in February, according to Tomás Reyes Lau, operator of the International School of Bartending in Hollywood, Galt paid $225 for a course that extended over the next four weekends.

He completed the course March 2, Mr. Lau said, but declined a proffered job, saying: "I have to leave to see my brother. What would it do for me to work only two or three weeks? I'd better wait until I get back to town and get a permanent job."

Galt telephoned a week later, Mr. Lau said, and again declined a job.

While taking the bartending course, Galt lived in a small hotel in Hollywood. Some individuals he gave as references at that time could not immediately be located.

The people who have known him recalled him clearly but had no notable recollections about him except that he had a Southern accent.

Personnel at the dancing school said he had spoken of operating a bar in the Mexican coast, yet did not appear to speak Spanish.

A Suspect Released

Special to The New York Times

ATLANTA, April 18—The police arrested a man this morning said to resemble Galt, but after questioning by F.B.I. agents he was apparently cleared and released.

The man, who said that he worked for a carnival, had just arrived in Atlanta from Valdosta, officials said. They said he had volunteered to accompany them to the Atlanta police headquarters for questioning this morning after someone reported him as resembling Galt's photograph.

No charges were lodged.

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